GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2466
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2001
BARREN LAND WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;RAJO SINGH;SHEELA GAUTAM

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of barren land/wasteland in the country at present;

(b) the area of land which have made fit for agriculture during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) the details of proposals received from various States for barren land/wasteland development for approval and funding of the Union Government during the last three years and as on date, Statewise;

(d) the number out of the projects sanctioned so far, State-wise;

(e) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be cleared;

(f) whether any foreign agency is involved in the wasteland development programme; and
(g) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)
(a) As per the `Wasteland Atlas of India,2000` brought out by the Department of Land Resources (DoLR) in collaboration with National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad, using Remote Sensing Technologies, the total extent of wastelands/degraded lands in the Country is 63.85 m. ha. out of which the extent of barren/rocky/stony waste sheet rock area is 6.45 m. ha.

(b),(c), (d)& (e) Department of Land Resources (DoLR) addresses the task of developing wastelands and degraded lands aimed at checking land degradation, putting such lands into productive use and increasing the availability of bio-mass specially fuel wood and fodder through a major Scheme namely Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP).This Programme seeks to improve the productivity of wastelands to grow appropriate bio-mass especially fuel-wood and fodder as also to prevent further degradation. Hence, agricultural production are generally not feasible on such lands at the first stage of development.

The projects under IWDPare prioritised in consultation with the State Governments for sanction during a financial yearsubject to conformity with the Guidelines for Watershed Development and availability of funds. Every year a fresh priority list is drawn which may also contain the projects not sanctioned during previous year. Hence, no time limit can be fixed for clearing the pending projects. During 2000-2001, 200 project proposals have been received out of which 57 projects have already been sanctioned. Statewise details of the projects received and sanctioned under this Scheme during last three years and also during the current financial year upto 28.2.2001 are given at Annexure.I.

(f)&(g) In order to mobilise resources for the development of wastelands special efforts are made for obtaining external assistance. At present, six projects are being implemented with the assistance of different Foreign Donor Agencies in different States.State-wise details of these projects is given at Annexure.II.

ANNEXURE - I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (b), (c) ,(&)(e) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2466 FOR REPLY ON 13.03.2001

Statement showing State-wise details of Projects received and sanctioned under IntegratedWastelands Development Programme (IWDP) during 1997-98 to 2000-01(upto 28.02.2001)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	1997-98		1998-99		1999-00		2000-01	
		Projects received	Project Sanctioned	Project received	Project Sanctioned	Project received	Project Sanctioned	Project received	Project Sanctioned
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	25	5	7	6	17	4	10	6
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1	0		1	6	0		0
3	ASSAM	7	1	13	0	11	3	11	4
4	BIHAR	2	0	4	0	4	1	5	0

5	CHATTISGARH	0		0	8	1			
6	DELHI	0	0	0	0	0			
7	GUJARAT	14	1	5	6	7	6	13	6
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	6	2	4	2	2	5	17	5
9	HARYANA	4	1	0	0	0			
10	JAMMU & KASHMIR	2	1	5	2	1	0	0	
11	JHARKAND				1	0			
12	KARNATAKA	12	4	11	5	15	5	8	0
13	KERALA	0	0	0	0	4	0		
14	MAHARASHTRA	18	1	24	3	3	5	12	4
15	MEGHALAYA	0	3	0	4	2	5	0	
16	MANIPUR	4	3	14	3	23	1	8	0
17	MADHYA PRADESH	5	5	2	2	11	11	10	3
18	MIZORAM	0		0	2	0	12	4	
19	NAGALAND	2	1	1	2	8	2	5	3
20	ORISSA	9	6	11	6	12	1	8	1
21	PUNJAB	1	0	0	0	0	0		
22	RAJASTHAN	6	2	4	1	9	8	14	8
23	SIKKIM	3	2	1	1	2	2	4	0
24	TAMIL NADU	2	1	6	1	17	8	9	8
25	TRIPURA	0		0	0	0			
26	UTTAR PRADESH	26	8	22	7	18	9	17	3
27	UTTARANCHAL					19	1		
28	WEST BENGAL	1	0	0	0	0			
TOTAL		150	44	137	48	172	73	200	57

ANNEXURE-II

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (b) & (g) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2466 for reply on 13.03.2001.

Details of on-going Wastelands Development Projects being aided by Foreign Donor Agencies :

S. No.	Name of the Donor Agency	Name of the Project	Project Period	Outlay	Project Area (Ha.)
1.	Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA)	Tree Growers Cooperative Project (TGCP) in the States of Rajasthan, Orissa & MP	01.09.91 to 31.12.2000	24.47 crores	13,889
2.	Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)	Tree Growers Cooperative Project (TGCP) in the States pf Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat & Karnataka.	01.12.93 to 31.12.99	45.99 crores	7,872
3.	Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan.	Attappady Wastelands Comprehensive Environmental Conservation Project in Palakkad District of Kerala.	26.03.96 to 26.03.2003	5112 Milliom Yen	50,700
4.	European Economic Commission (EEC-EC) EC-Grant	Haryana Community Forestry Project	24.01..97 to 24.01.2006	30.10 ECU Million	27,380
5.	European Economic Commission (EEC-EC) EC-Grant	Community Management of Natural Resources in Gujarat.	1994-2001	ECU 15.85 Million of which ECU 11.95 Million	45,000

	from EEC and balance 25% AKRSP (Implementing Agency)			
6. Department of International Development (DFID), UK	Rural Livelihood Project in the State of Andhra Pradesh & Orissa.	1999-2006 and 2000-2010	782.93 Lakh Pounds	-